GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2429
ANSWERED ON:23.08.2013
TAX RELAXATION TO PROMOTE RURALTOURISM
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Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) has made any study on potential of rural tourism in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the response of the Government thereto;

(c) whether the Government also proposes to give tax relaxations to private investors to promote rural tourism in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR TOURISM (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) (DR. K. CHIRANJEEVI)

(a) and (b): Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) has informed that they have not conducted any specific study on potential of rural tourism in the country. However, FICCI had organized a Conclave on Investment in Tourism Infrastructure 2013 (CITI) from 16 to 17 January, 2013 in Delhi. The Ministry of Tourism had provided non-financial support to the Conclave by allowing use of its logo "Incredible India".

(c) to (e): The Ministry of Tourism has a Rural Tourism Scheme with the main objective of showcasing rural life, art, culture and heritage in villages which have core competence in art & craft, handloom, textiles, natural environment etc. Under this scheme, Central Financial Assistance (CFA) upto Rs.50.00 Lakh for infrastructure development and upto Rs.20.00 Lakh for capacity building is provided to State Governments/Union Territory Administrations for each identified site by them respectively.

However, there is, at present, no proposal for tax relaxation to private investors to promote rural tourism in the country in the Ministry of Tourism.